

I support local weather information on XM radio for reasons of highway safety. Last Sunday, I completed a 7,000 mile vacation trip. During the trip I relied on the LOCAL weather reports to insure my families safety and to avoid the series of very dangerous storms we were trying to avoid. We drove through flooded areas of Kansas and Indiana. Along the way, we saw a lot of wind damage in Missouri. On I-70 in Indiana, the local weather indicated a need to change our route back to our home in Maryland. We went south to I-64 and made our way home through Kentucky and West Virginia and into Virginia.

After arriving home Sunday night, We listened to the news on Monday AM. One of the towns we went through in Indiana was virtually destroyed by tornados. West Virginia experienced more than 4 inches of rainfall and at least one death from drowning. Several persons were killed in the other storms. (All this past weekend.)

Thank God for local weather information, even when we could not receive local radio stations due to "fading" from the terrain, which is not a problem for the XM signal.

Please reject the efforts of the NAB petition 04-160, which is ignoring the safety benefits of the local WX and Traffic reports.